

CULTURAL MOMENT FOR JUNE 2, 2025 CELEBRATES THE TREES OF WELLINGTON NORTH

One of the key landscape features of Wellington North, particularly Mount Forest, are the mature trees.

Mature trees are vital to both urban and natural environments. They absorb more carbon dioxide than younger trees, improve air and water quality, and provide shade. Their large canopies support diverse wildlife and enhance biodiversity.

To help protect these trees, Tree Trust Legacy was founded in 2019 in Elora. After attending a ceremony, members of the Mount Forest Green Team formed the Mount Forest Chapter of the Tree Trust Legacy. Spearheaded by Erin Kiers, Daphne Rappard and Rhoda Seibert, the Mount Forest chapter was formed in 2024. The Tree Trust's mission is to preserve older trees as they anchor our eco system, beautify our land, provide psychological benefits and, of course, link us to history.

Tree Trust understands that one mature trees does the work of 300 saplings and is on a mission to preserve these trees through professional assessment and care from specialized arborists. Tree Trust is the only charity dedicated to saving older trees, and the first adopted tree in Mount Forest was nominated and unveiled in September 2024. This amur cork is located behind Canada Post at Wellington and Elgin Street. A celebration and ceremony marked the occasion with local representatives and residents.

Each year a new tree is nominated and designated. In addition to this, Tree Trust provides educational seminars and events throughout the community and provides valuable framework for municipalities with regards to tree management and best practices, protecting these vulnerable trees from abolishment. To date this organization



Arborist Manuela shows attendees how to properly plant a tree at the 2024 Tree of the Year ceremony. (Photo courtesy of the Wellington Advertiser)

has cared for over 80 mature trees and 210 saplings, which provides over 322 tonnes of carbon stored.

Tree Trust is a charity that relies mostly on sponsorship and donations. If you wish to donate, nominate a tree or be part of this worthy organization check out treetrust.ca.

Submitted by Trina Reid, Wellington North Cultural Roundtable